ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

During a downshift of a belt-drive continuously variable transmission, occurring owing to vehicle deceleration, a CVT controller foretells that a slippage between a drive belt and each of primary and secondary variable-width pulleys tends to occur, when a primary pulley pressure is less than a first predetermined pressure level and a primary pulley speed is less than a first predetermined rotational speed. When the belt slippage has been foretold, the CVT controller inhibits the primary pulley pressure from dropping by setting an actual transmission ratio calculated before a set time period from a time when the slippage has been foretold or a transmission ratio of a relatively higher speed side as compared with a ratio-change operating state obtained when the slippage has been foretold, to a desired transmission ratio, or by relatively rising a line pressure as compared with a line pressure level produced when the slippage has been foretold.